



## **IASC Council Meeting**

16 April 2010  
ASSW 2010 (Nuuk, Greenland)

### **Schedule**

12.00-15.00	Council – Open Session
15.00-15.15	Coffee Break
15.15-16.00	Council – Executive Session

*Draft Minutes*

## Table of Content – Open Session

<b>1</b>	<b>OPENING AND REPORTING .....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	WELCOME AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION .....	1
1.2	APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING .....	1
1.3	REVIEW OF THE ACTION ITEMS FROM THE LAST MEETING .....	1
1.4	ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA.....	1
1.5	PRESIDENT´S REPORT .....	1
1.6	EXECUTIVE SECRETARY´S REPORT .....	1
<b>2</b>	<b>MAIN ISSUES.....</b>	<b>2</b>
2.1	STRUCTURE.....	2
2.2	SECRETARIAT .....	3
2.3	AOSB-IASC WG ON MARINE SYSTEMS.....	3
2.4	FORUM OF ARCTIC RESEARCH OPERATORS (FARO).....	3
2.5	IASC PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS .....	4
2.6	NEW IASC MEMBERS .....	4
2.7	NEW IASC ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST COUNCIL MEETING .....	4
2.8	MAJOR PLANNING ACTIVITIES .....	4
2.8.1	ISAC .....	5
2.8.2	IPY.....	5
2.8.3	SAON .....	5
2.8.4	Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic (SWIPA).....	6
2.9	SCAR/IASC BIPOLAR ACTION GROUP .....	6
2.10	ARCTIC COUNCIL ISSUES .....	6
2.11	ICSU ISSUES .....	5
2.12	IPCC.....	6
2.13	ASSW.....	7
2.13.1	ASSW 2011 .....	7
2.13.2	ASSW 2012 .....	7
<b>3</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS.....</b>	<b>7</b>
3.1	IASC MEDAL.....	7
<b>4</b>	<b>NEXT MEETING .....</b>	<b>8</b>

## Annex – Open Session

- ANNEX 2.3:** Draft Minutes of the AOSB Meeting at ASSW 2010.
- ANNEX 2.6:** Presentation of the Austria's arctic research.
- ANNEX 2.8.1a:** Letter received from the ISAC Executive Director.
- ANNEX 2.8.1b:** Presentation received from the ISAC Executive Director.
- ANNEX 2.11a:** ICSU letter to IUGS.
- ANNEX 2.11b:** ICSU letter to SCAR.
- ANNEX 2.13.1:** First circular of the ASSW 2011.



# IASC Council – Open Session

16 MARCH, 12.00-15.00

## 1 OPENING AND REPORTING

### 1.1 WELCOME AND PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The President opened the meeting and welcomed the meeting participants in both Nuuk (Greenland) and Copenhagen (Denmark). The President thanked the Greenlandic organizers for the set-up of the *ad hoc* video connection between Nuuk and Copenhagen that enabled the Council Meeting to take place despite the special circumstances (no air traffic due to the volcanic eruption in Iceland).

### 1.2 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST MEETING

The Secretariat did not receive any comments on the minutes of the last meeting and they were approved.

### 1.3 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Due to the special circumstances and limited time available, it was decided to handle the agenda items that required discussion or approval first and remove the information items from the agenda. The agenda was adopted.

Council members in Nuuk and Copenhagen had met informally prior to the Council meeting to review items on the agenda in order to better accommodate the time limitations.

### 1.4 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President decided to move on to more urgent issues and skipped the agenda item.

## 2 MAIN ISSUES

### 2.1 STRUCTURE

The President informed the Council Members about the development of the IASC restructuring since the last meeting in Bergen, Norway. The latest reply from the Russian Academy of Sciences was discussed and Council Members were invited to share their views.

The general agreement was that IASC is above all a scientific, non-governmental, international organization currently consisting of 19 member countries. The Council instructed the Executive Committee to continue its efforts to ensure continued positive cooperation with the Russian Academy of Sciences.

The Russian invitation for a meeting in Moscow to be held May 2010 was considered an important step forward and the Executive Committee will keep the Council informed about the outcome and possible next steps.

#### ***Working Groups (WGs)***

(1) Council discussed and approved the formation of the following five Working Groups (WGs):

- Terrestrial;
- Cryosphere;
- Marine (Arctic Ocean Sciences Board);
- Atmosphere;
- Social and Human.

Council highlighted the need for WGs to be 'living' groups that rise and fall according to the scientific needs of the community. While the WGs are disciplinary in nature, they are expected to facilitate interdisciplinary activities as well as activities solely within the scope of their scientific discipline.

It was, therefore, decided that the term '*permanent*' would be removed from the Terms of Reference for each working group. The Terms of Reference are further under revision until the Working Groups have members and become operational. It was noted that AOSB has already approved the Terms of Reference for the AOSB/Marine Working Group, with only minor adjustments to points 3.0 and 4.0. AOSB will forward these changes to its ToR to the Council for approval.

It was decided that the next step is for IASC Member Organizations to appoint the best experts from their country to fill the Working Groups. A letter inviting appointments will be sent by the Secretariat. Council also agreed to organize an IASC Workshop for all Working Group members in Potsdam (Germany) on

8-10 November 2010. IASC will hold (financial) responsibility for logistics at the meeting (hotels, meals), but travel to Potsdam will be the responsibility of members.

### **Action Group**

(2) In the original agenda it was further proposed that an **Action Group** to review and update the IASC Founding Articles should be established. The discussion on the proposed Action Group was removed from the agenda because it is no longer of relevance in the current situation.

(3) Council recognized that the possibility of an amending formula for the twenty-year-old IASC Founding Articles has to be explored.

Regarding a possible cooperative body representing the interest of the countries in the arctic region the President introduced the activities concerning the establishment of a Forum composed of the Ministers of Science from the countries in the arctic region. The Council recognizes that this might be a way forward and agrees with the Presidents' suggestion to offer Karl Erb assistance in further exploring a possible collaboration with the Ministers of Science as first mentioned in the Reykjavik Declaration of 2004.

## **2.2 SECRETARIAT**

The Executive Secretary expressed his gratitude to the German Science Foundation (DFG) and the Alfred Wegener Institute (AWI) for their generous support to the IASC Secretariat. A Memorandum of Understanding between IASC and the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research was presented. It was added that the auditing report of the IASC General Funds is available upon request.

## **2.3 AOSB-IASC WG ON MARINE SYSTEMS**

The agenda item is skipped due to limited time.

- ***The minutes of the AOSB Meeting held the day before in Nuuk is given in ANNEX 2.3.***

## **2.4 FORUM OF ARCTIC RESEARCH OPERATORS (FARO)**

There are mutual interests between FARO and IASC to increase the interaction between both parties. Council was requested to mandate a small group to examine future collaborative efforts and agreed. The results of the FARO meeting regarding this topic will be forwarded to Council.



## **2.5 IASC PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS**

The agenda item was skipped due to limited time.

## **2.6 NEW IASC MEMBERS**

The Executive Secretary has been in contact with Austrian scientists. Austria has expressed interest in becoming an IASC Member. Unfortunately, Wolfgang Schöner could not attend the meeting due to the air traffic limitations.

- ***The presentation of Austria's arctic research activities is given in ANNEX 2.6.***

The invitation to Austria to attend an IASC Council Meeting as an observer and give a short presentation of their Arctic research program is postponed until next year.

Josef Elster presented Czech Republic research in the Arctic and reaffirmed their interest in becoming an IASC member country. A formal membership application is anticipated in time for the next IASC Council Meeting during ASSW 2011.

## **2.7 NEW IASC ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST COUNCIL MEETING**

The Executive Secretary introduced a summary of IASC supported activities over the last year and introduced a template for external funding requests. Council noted the summary report and approved the template with the condition that the reference to the *Scientific Standing Committees* will be replaced by a reference to the newly approved *Working Groups*.

The Executive Secretary used the opportunity to introduce the IASC Bulletin 08/09 and to thank the Executive Officer Mare Pit for excellent work. The Bulletin will be distributed by hardcopy. A PDF version is available on the IASC website.

## **2.8 MAJOR PLANNING ACTIVITIES**

Under this agenda item, short status reports of major planning activities had been planned. However, due to the limited time, only agenda item 2.8.1, ISAC, was addressed





## 2.8.1 ISAC

The President provided a status report, which included the outcome of a meeting between the IASC and ISAC leadership and the National Science Foundation (NSF) held in Stockholm (Sweden) on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2010. Vice President Jackie Grebmeier provided a report on meetings between IASC Executive Committee members and ISAC SSC members during the AGU meeting in Portland in February and the State of the Arctic meeting in Miami in March. She also provided a status report on the ISAC science plan and future needs of the ISAC International Program Office.

- ***A letter and presentation received from the ISAC Executive Director are given in ANNEX 2.8.1a and 2.8.1b.***

Both the President and Vice-President noted that IASC has a continued interest in keeping communications with ISAC going and exploring a continued partnership that has a strong scientific base. The Executive Committee was mandated to consider opportunities for continued collaboration with ISAC, and to undertake a discussion of various options with the ISAC SSC. IASC Working Groups will be asked to closely review the ISAC Science Plan and recommend specific ways that IASC can support implementation of some of the ISAC priorities based on shared science directions. The Executive Committee will present a resolution regarding the ISAC and IASC partnership no later than the next IASC Council meeting at ASSW 2011.

## 2.8.2 IPY

The agenda item was skipped due to limited time. For more information, Council Members are invited to review the IPY section presented in the IASC Bulletin 08/09 (p. 77) and to visit the website of the IPY Oslo Conference ([www.ipy-osc.no](http://www.ipy-osc.no)).

## 2.8.3 SAON

The agenda item was skipped due to limited time. For more information, Council Members are invited to review the SAON section presented in the IASC Bulletin 08/09 (p. 70), and to review new information on the SAON website ([www.arcticobserving.org](http://www.arcticobserving.org)). IASC Vice-President David Hik is co-chair of the SAON Steering Group and the IASC Secretariat provides support for the SAON-SG. Preparation of the second SAON report to Arctic Council will be a major activity during the coming year.



#### 2.8.4 Snow, Water, Ice and Permafrost in the Arctic (SWIPA)

The agenda item is skipped due to limited time. For more information, Council Members are invited to review the SWIPA section presented in the IASC Bulletin 08/09 (p. 73).

### 2.9 SCAR/IASC BIPOLAR ACTION GROUP

The Executive Secretary introduced a proposal for an extended SCAR/IASC Bipolar Action Group (BipAG).

Council discussed and conditionally (pending approval by SCAR Council) approved the proposal for the continuation of the Bipolar Action Group with a focus on common scientific activities.

### 2.10 ARCTIC COUNCIL ISSUES

The agenda item was skipped due to limited time.

### 2.11 ICSU ISSUES

The agenda item was skipped due to limited time. Council Members are invited to view the ICSU letters to SCAR and IUGS confirming ICSU support for

- (a) MicroPerm - An international workshop to initiate the circumpolar integration of permafrost microbiological studies;
- (b) Education and Outreach Lessons from IPY.

IASC is a co-applicant on both proposals.

➤ ***The letters are given in ANNEX 2.11a and 2.11b.***

IASC has also supported the renewal of the CODATA Polar Data Management Coordination Task Group for the period 2010- 2012.

### 2.12 IPCC

Council noted that ICSU agreed on a mechanism for IASC to be represented as an Observer at relevant meetings of IPCC working groups, using the ICSU observer status.

## **2.13 ASSW**

### **2.13.1 ASSW 2011**

A short introduction to the ASSW 2011 in Seoul (Korea) as provided by the Korean representative, Yeadong Kim, in Nuuk.

- ***The first circular is given in ANNEX 2.13.1.***

Council noted the report.

### **2.13.2 ASSW 2012**

Vice President David Hik presented the offer to host the ASSW 2012 business meetings in conjunction with the IPY 2012 Montreal Conference, "From Knowledge to Action".

The ASSW International Coordination Group has decided to combine the ASSW 2012 with the IPY 2012 Montreal Conference. The business meetings of the organizations involved in the ASSW will be held immediately before or after the IPY Montreal Conference at the same venue, which means that in 2012 there would not be an official ASSW but only business meetings held in conjunction with the IPY Conference.

Council noted the report.

## **3 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Naja Mikkelsen presented the suggestion that early career scientists should not only be supported to participate in scientific events but should also be stimulated and enabled to take part in the planning phase of new science activities. AOSB has had very positive experiences with this approach (New Research Generation) and Council agrees that this involvement should also be stimulated in the future IASC Working Groups and in funding requests from external parties.

### **3.1 IASC MEDAL**

The agenda item was skipped due to limited time.



## 4 NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the IASC Council will be held at the Arctic Science Summit Week (ASSW) 2011 in Seoul (Korea) at 28 March – 1 April 2011.



# **IASC Council Meeting**

16 April 2010  
ASSW 2010 (Nuuk, Greenland)

## **Executive Session**

Friday, 16 April 2010

**15.15-16.00**



## Table of Content - Executive Session

<b>E1</b>	<b>IASC ECONOMY .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>E2</b>	<b>ELECTIONS.....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>E3</b>	<b>ANY OTHER BUSINESS.....</b>	<b>1</b>

## Annex – Executive Session

**ANNEX E1:** IASC accounts for 2009 and the approved budget for 2010.

## E1 IASC ECONOMY

The Executive Secretary presented the accounts for 2009 and the proposed budget for 2010 (IASC General Funds).

Council approved the accounts and the proposed budget.

- ***The accounts for 2009 and the approved budget for 2010 are given in ANNEX E1.***

## E2 ELECTIONS

The IASC nomination committee consisting of the current President and the Secretary of AOSB introduced the election procedure and conducted the election.

The nominees were:

For President: David Hik

For Vice-President: Jackie Grebmeier, Naja Mikkelsen and Susan Barr

**Council elected David Hik (Canada) as new IASC President**

Because David Hik held the position of Vice-President until this election a total of three Vice-Presidents needed to be elected.

**Jackie Grebmeier (USA) was re-elected as Vice-President.**

**Naja Mikkelsen (Denmark/Greenland) was elected Vice-President.**

**Susan Barr (Norway) was elected Vice-President.**

IASC Council and the Secretariat expressed their deep appreciation and sincere thanks to Kristján Kristjánsson (Director of Research Services at Reykjavík University) who served on the Executive Committee as President from 2006-2010 and Vice-President from 2002-2006, and Professor Emeritus Dieter Fütterer, Vice-President from 1994-1997 and 2002-2010, for all their work and highly valued input.

## E3 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.